CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1   1.   A method for Short Message Services (SMS) provisioning in a system

2   including a Home Location Register (HLR), a Message Center (MC), and a Mobile

3   Switching Center (MSC) including a Mobile Switching Center point code scheme,

4   comprising the steps of:

5   storing location data for said MSC in said HLR;

6   receiving a request from said MC to deliver a SMS message to said MSC;

7   determining a MC point code scheme for said MC;

8   comparing the MC point code scheme with the MSC point code scheme;

9   populating said SMS message with the MSC point code scheme if the MSC

10   and MC point code schemes are the same; and

11   delivering said SMS message from said MC to said MSC.

1   2.   A method for Short Message Services (SMS) provisioning in a system

2   including a Home Location Register (HLR), a Message Center (MC), a Mobile Switching

3   Center (MSC), including a Mobile Switching Center point code scheme, comprising the steps

4   of:

5   storing location data for said MSC in said HLR, wherein said location data

6   includes at least one Mobile Switching Center Identification Number (MSCIN) parameter;

7   receiving a request from said MC to deliver a SMS message to said MSC;

8   determining a MC point code scheme for said MC;

9   comparing the MC point code scheme with the MSC point code scheme;

10   populating said SMS message with the MSC point code scheme if the MSC

11   and MC point code schemes are the same;

12   otherwise, populating said SMS message with the MSCIN parameter; and

13   delivering said SMS message from said MC to said MSC.

1   3.   A method for Short Message Services (SMS) provisioning in a system

2 including a Home Location Register (HLR), a Message Center (MC), a Mobile Switching

3 Center (MSC), including a Mobile Switching Center point code scheme, comprising the steps

4 of:

5   storing location data for said MSC, wherein said location data includes a SMS

6 address in said HLR and wherein said location data does not contain a MSCIN parameter;

7   receiving a request from said MC to deliver a SMS message to said MSC;

8   determining a MC point code scheme for said MC;

9   comparing the MC point code scheme with the MSC point code scheme;

10   populating said SMS message with the MSC point code scheme if the MSC

11 and MC point code schemes are the same; and

12   delivering said SMS message from said MC to said MSC.

1   4.   The method of Claim 2, wherein the MSCIN parameter is in Global

2 Title Address (GTA) format.

1   5.   The method of Claim 4, wherein said GTA format uses an E.212

2 identifier.

1   6.   The method of Claim 4, wherein said GTA format uses an E.164

2 identifier.

1   7.   The method of Claim 4, wherein said GTA format uses a combination

2   of said E.212 and E.164 identifiers.

1   8.   The method of Claim 1, wherein said HLR has a database including at

2   least one country code and at least one corresponding point code scheme.

1   9.   The method of Claim 8, wherein said point code scheme is specified

2   according to American National Standards Institute (ANSI) standard-41.

1   10.   The method of Claim 8, wherein said point code scheme is specified

2   according to International Telecommunication Union (ITU) standard Q.700.

1   11.   The method of Claim 8, wherein the step of comparing the MC point

2   code scheme with the MSC point code scheme occurs in said database in said HLR.

1   12.   The method of Claim 1, wherein the step of determining the MC point

2   code scheme further includes the step of determining a nationality of the MC.

1   13.   A node for determining whether a Message Center (MC) and a Mobile

2   Switching Center (MSC) share a common point code, comprising:

3   a memory including a database having a plurality of point code schemes and a

4   corresponding plurality of country codes.

1   14.   The node of Claim 13 wherein the node is a Home Location Register (HLR).